

Alaska Community and Public Transportation Advisory Board

Teleconference notes

November 12, 2015

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Alaska Time

PRESENT:

- Pat Branson, Seniors
- Heidi Frost, People with Disabilities
- Glenn Miller, Municipalities with Transit Systems
- Katherine Eldemar, Denail Commission
- Joe Thomas, Department of Labor and Workforce Development
- Mike Vigue, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
- Jennifer Beckmann, Low Income
- Kelda Barstad, Department of Health and Social Services

NOT PRESENT:

- Julie Baltar, Tribal Representative
- Lucas Lind, Alaska Mental Health Trust

STAFF:

- Eric Taylor, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
- Marsha Bracke, Bracke & Associates, Inc., Facilitator

AGENDA

Membership

Eric Taylor reported the Governor's Boards and Commissions has interviewed and will soon be announcing the three members filling the three existing vacancies on the Community and Public Transportation Advisory Board. The three vacancies include one for the non-profit organization and two public-at-large.

Coordination Recommendation

Regarding the Coordination Recommendation, Kelda Barstad recommended a couple changes to the document, which are included in the copy of the Recommendation dated November 12, 2015. Katherine Eldemar suggested the group start thinking about how to connect with Alaskan Native Health Organizations, and Kelda Barstad suggested the document be shared with Division Directors in Health and Social Services. Those meetings can follow the group's presentation of the recommendations to the Governor, which will involve Mike Vigue and Pat Branson. Kelda will seek a meeting schedule of all Division Directors so the discussion with all Directors can happen concurrently.

C&PTAB directed the facilitator to move the recommendation forward in the 2015 Annual Report.

Calculating Costs

Jennifer Beckmann has reached out to Ethan Tyler regarding moving forward with a web-based version of the Calculating Costs spreadsheet and getting the tool refined for testing at the April Community Transit Conference.

Taxi Survey

A link to the Taxi Survey in its entirety was provided to the C&PTAB. Glenn Miller and Heidi Frost reported the effort was productive and provided a lot of good information. Their immediate observations: the biggest use of taxis is for medical appointments; less than 50 percent of users are satisfied with their service. A summary report of the survey results will be developed, pending a conference call among Heidi, Glenn and Marsha to review and draw conclusions.

The survey summary report will be provided to those participants who indicated they would like a follow-up communication. That will be provided with Heidi's contact information in the event they have further questions. Marsha will draft the material and send, subject to Heidi, Glenn, and Eric's review.

Debbi Howard, DOT&PF and Heidi volunteered to purchase the two \$25 gift cards to drawing recipients. Marsha did a randomized drawing during the call producing the following results:

1. Betsy Chivers
2. Nicole Egholm

Alternates in the event they are needed are:

3. Lael Venton
4. Tom Schnieder

Contact information is included within the survey.

Outreach

The next step in the C&PTAB outreach effort is to present C&PTAB work to the Governor. That opportunity will be pursued on or before the C&PTAB meeting in Juneau in January. The group directed the following action specific to the documents indicated:

- One-Pager: No comments or suggestions provided; the group is invited to use as needed.
- PowerPoint: Some in the group thought the revised version of the PowerPoint was still too wordy, and one thought the version of the PowerPoint that included all the background pictures was too busy. Marsha will revise the PowerPoint again, minimizing text, using graphics, and eliminating the busy background.

Medicaid Waiver Language

Kelda Barstad presented the group with the following proposed language to include in the Medicaid Waiver proposal specific to Non-Emergency Medical Transportation underway by DHSS. Noting that the proposed language looks consistent with C&PTAB discussion to date, the group will take more time to look at it and discuss during its next call on Wednesday, December 9, 2015.

- Align non-medical transportation provider certification processes
- Use the same rate methodology for NEMT across all other Medicaid programs that utilize transportation services
- Use the same definitions and procedures for NEMT (For Example: same

definition and distance limits for short-distance ground travel) across Medicaid programs

- Require provider agreements and transportation contracts for NEMT and other transportation needs to include coordinated transportation language
- Encourage participation and education to use mass public transportation, where available
- Continue the practice of issuing a bus pass for multiple NEMT appointments when the bus is the transportation method

Future Meetings

- The January 26-27, 2015 meeting in Juneau is schedule and facilities reserved. Marsha has already distributed logistical information for that meeting.
- The April 28, 2015 meeting in Fairbanks is held the day prior to the Alaska Community Transit Conference. DOT&PF will be coordinating those logistics, and the C&PTAB will need to consider its objectives for outreach at the Conference.
- The June 1-2, 2015 meeting in Nome has been met with some logistical challenges, and will need to be either rescheduled or moved to Valdez. There is availability in Nome the two weeks prior to the scheduled date. Marsha will send a doodle to test availability in Nome the two weeks prior. Meeting location will be decided given the result of that doodle poll.
- The September/October meeting date in Ketchikan has not yet been confirmed.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Jennifer will follow-up with Ethan Tyler and report the opportunities for continuing the development of the Calculating Costs spreadsheet.
2. Heidi Frost, Glenn Miller and Marsha Bracke will meet to discuss the Taxi Survey Results, after which a summary report will be developed and distributed.
3. Heidi, Marsha and Debbi will coordinate the distribution of the gift cards to the survey participants.
4. Heidi and Marsha will coordinate the delivery of the survey results or summary to the survey participants who indicated they were interested. Heidi's contact information will be provided as a point-of-contact.
5. Marsha will revise the PowerPoint presentation, continuing to minimize text and add graphics.
6. Marsha will continue to work details of the Nome meeting, and report back to the group on whether that meeting will occur a week or to prior to the given schedule or be moved to Valdez.

The next conference call of the C&PTAB is scheduled for Wednesday, December 9, 2105.